NUMB. II.

The GUARDIAN.

To be continued every Day.

Friday, March 13. 1713.

THE readieſt Way to proceed in my great Undertaking, is to explain who I am my ſelf that promiſe to give the Town a daily Half Sheet: I ſhall therefore enter into my own Hiſtory, without loſing any Time in Preamble. I was born in the Year 1642, at a lone Houſe within half a Mile of the Town of *Brandford*, in the County of *Middleſex*; my Parents were of Ability to beſtow upon me a liberal Education, and of an Humour to think that a great Happineſs even in a Fortune which was but juſt enough to keep me above Want. In my ſixteenth Year I was admitted a Commoner of *Magdalen-Hall* in *Oxford*. It is one great Advantage, among many more, which Men educated at our Univerſities do uſually enjoy above others, that they often contract Friendſhips there, which are of Service to them in all the Parts of their future Life. This good Fortune happened to me; for during the Time of my being an Under-Graduate, I became intimately acquainted with Mr. AMBROSE LIZARD, who was a Fellow-Commoner of the neighbouring College. I have the Honour to be well known to Mr. JOSEPH PULLEN, of our Hall above-mentioned; and attribute the florid Old Age I now enjoy, to my conſtant Morning Walks up *Hedington-Hill* in his chearful Company. If the Gentleman be ſtill living, I hereby give him my humble Service. But, as I was going to ſay, I contracted in my early Youth an intimate Friendſhip with young Mr. LIZARD of *Northamptonſhire*. He was ſent for, a little before he was of Batchelor's ſtanding, to be marry'd to Mrs. *Jane Lizard*, an Heireſs, whoſe Father would have it ſo for the ſake of the Name. Mr. AMBROSE knew nothing of it till he came to *Lizard-Hall* on the *Saturday* Night, ſaw the young Lady at Dinner the next Day, and was marry'd, by Order of his Father Sir AMBROSE, between Eleven and Twelve the *Tueſday* following. Some Years after, when my Friend came to be Sir AMBROSE himſelf, and finding, upon Proof of her, that he had lighted upon a good Wife, he gave the Curate who join'd their Hands the Parſonage of *Welt*, not far off *Wellingborough*. My Friend was married in the Year 62, and every Year following, for eighteen Years together, I left the College, (except that Year wherein I was choſen Fellow of *Lincoln*) and ſojourned at Sir AMBROSE's for the Months of *June*, *July* and *Auguſt*. I remember very well, that it was on the 4th of *July*, in the Year 1674, that I was reading in an Arbour to my Friend, and ſtopt of a ſudden, obſerving he did not attend. *Lay by your Book*, ſaid he, *and let us take a Turn in the Graſs-Walk, for I have ſomething to ſay to you.* After a Silence for above forty Yards walking, both of us with our Eyes downward, one big to hear t'other to ſpeak a Matter of great Importance, Sir AMBROSE expreſs'd himſelf to this effect: *My good Friend*, ſaid he, *you may have obſerved that from the firſt Moment I was in your Company at Mr.* Willis's *Chambers at* University-College, *I ever after ſought and courted you: That Inclination towards you has improved from Similitude of Manners, if I may ſo ſay, when I tell you I have not obſerved in any Man a greater Candour and Simplicity of Mind than in your ſelf. You are a Man that are not inclined to launch into the World, but prefer Security and Eaſe in a Collegiate or Single Life, to going into the Cares which neceſſarily attend a publick Character, or that of a Maſter of a Family. You ſee within my Son* Marmaduke, *my only Child; I have a thouſand Anxieties upon me concerning him, the greater part of which I would tranſfer to you, and when I do ſo, I would make it, in plain* Engliſh, *worth your while.* He would not let me ſpeak, but proceeded to inform me, that he had laid the whole Scheme of his Affairs upon that Foundation. As ſoon as we went into the Houſe, he gave me a Bill upon his Goldſmith in *London* of Two Thouſand Pounds, and told me with that he had purchaſed me, with all the Talents I was Maſter of, to be of his Family, to educate his Son, and do all that ſhould ever lie in my Power for the Service of him and his to my Life's End, according to ſuch Powers, Truſts and Inſtructions as I ſhould hereafter receive.

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(Price Two Pence.)